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INFO CM-04 P-01 RA-01 EAP-05 /011 AI BT
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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC RIACI IMMEDIATE 0100
INFO AMCONSUL BONG BONG IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SHENTANG IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CHENGDU POUCH

SECRET BEIJING 15546

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR LILLEY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, US, CM
SUBJECT: TFCN01: SECRETARY'S REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION ON CRISIS IN CHINA

REF: AMBASSADOR/SECRETARY JUNE 6 TELCON

1. (S) SUMMARY:

THERE IS A SANITARY GORDON AROUND THE CENTER OF BEIJING WITH MAJOR INTERSECTIONS ON THE SECOND RING ROAD CONTROLLED BY ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND TANKS. WE CANNOT CONFIRM THE SITUATION AT TIANANMEN SQUARE OR WHETHER THERE IS FIGHTING BETWEEN GROUP ARMIES. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE RELIABLE REPORTS OF BUILDING TENSION IN THE MILITARY, FIGURES SOURCED TO THE CHINESE RED CROSS STATE THAT 2,600 HAVE DIED AFTER BEING HOSPITALIZED; THE MOST COMMON CREDIBLE FIGURE IS A MINIMUM OF 10,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED. CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAS VIRTUALLY COME TO A STANDSTILL

WE ESTIMATE THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 8,000 AMERICAN CITIZENS (1,400 IN BEIJING) AND 428 US EMBASSY AND CONSULATE PERSONNEL AND DEPENDENTS IN CHINA. (END SUMMARY)

2. (S) CURRENT MILITARY SITUATION (WAO ASSESSMENT):

THE PLA GENERAL STAFF DEPARTMENT IS STILL FUNCTIONING AND WE BELIEVE THAT THE DIRECTORS OF THE THREE STAFF DEPARTMENTS (GLD, GSD, AND GPD) ARE LOYAL TO YANG. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF A SPLIT BETWEEN DEFENSE MINISTER QIN JIWEI AND YANG. THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS SOME MILITARY REGION COMMANDERS HAVE REFUSED TO COME TO BEIJING TO MEET WITH THE CENTRAL COMMAND.

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THERE IS A SANITARY GORDON AROUND THE CENTER OF BEIJING FOR ABOUT TWO KILOMETERS AROUND TIANANMEN SQUARE. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THE SHOOTING AT THE SQUARE IS NOT NOW INDISCRIMINATE, BUT IT STILL CONTINUES. INSIDE THE SECOND RING ROAD THE MILITARY IS IN FIRM CONTROL, AND NEIGHBORHOODS IN THIS ZONE APPEAR CALM. AT MAJOR INTERSECTIONS ON THE SECOND RING ROAD, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS AND TANKS ARE BEING USED TO CONTROL ACCESS TO THE CENTER OF TOWN. MOST OTHER MAJOR INTERSECTIONS USED BY THE ARMY TO ENTER TOWN NOW HAVE ROADBLOCKS OUTSIDE THE THIRD RING ROAD AND ARE MANNED BY CIVILIANS WITH SUCH THINGS AS MOLOTOV COCKTAILS READY TO FIGHT. RULES OF ENGAGEMENT ARE CLEAR IN THE PERIPHERAL ZONES, AND THE ARMY IS ATTEMPTING TO AVOID THE USE OF DEADLY FORCE IF POSSIBLE.

WE CANNOT CONFIRM THE SITUATION IN THE CENTER OF THE TIANANMEN AREA, BUT THIS MORNING ALL APPEARED CALM THERE WITH SOME TROOPS MOVED TO INSIDE THE FORBIDDEN CITY. THERE IS INFORMATION THAT THE 27TH ARMY IS BEING MORE BRUTAL THAN OTHERS. THIS IS A COMMON THREAD IN STORIES CIRCULATING IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CHINESE COMMUNITIES. AS FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE, THE 30TH ARMY, THE 63RD, AND THE 1ST TANK DIVISION ALSO ATTACKED AND BRUTAL FORCE WAS INVOLVED. WE DO NOT YET HAVE FIRM EVIDENCE THERE WILL BE FIGHTING BETWEEN GROUP ARMIES OF THE PLA, BUT THERE ARE PERSISTENT REPORTS THAT SUCH FIGHTING HAS OCCURRED BETWEEN SMALLER UNITS. NO ONE HAS YET EYEWITNESSED THIS. DESPITE PERSISTENT STORIES OF CARNAGE OR POSSIBLE CARNAGE IN THE UNIVERSITIES AREA, NONE HAS OCCURRED SO FAR ACCORDING TO OUR EYEWITNESSES.

3. (S) ESTIMATE OF CASUALTIES:

WE CANNOT PIN DOWN AN ACCURATE RANGE FOR NUMBERS OF DEAD AND WOUNDED. HOSPITALS HAVE NOT BEEN FORTHCOMING WITH INFORMATION. THE CHINESE RED CROSS FIGURE OF 2600 HAVING DIED AFTER BEING HOSPITALIZED IS THE HARDEST FIGURE WE HAVE THUS FAR. GIVEN THE LEVEL OF BRUTALITY THAT WE KNOW OCCURRED, WE BELIEVE THAT THE MEDIA REPORTS OF MANY THOUSANDS INJURED ARE CREDIBLE. THE MOST COMMON CREDIBLE FIGURE WE HAVE HEARD IS A MINIMUM OF 10,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED.

4.

5. (S) MEETINGS WITH CHINESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS:

United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
Review Authority: MILLER, ROBERT
Date: 01/23/96
Case ID: 9205307

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CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY HAS COME TO A VIRTUAL
STANDSTILL. ON JUNE 6 THE AOCN WILL MEET WITH THE
NEW DIRECTOR OF THE NSA AMERICAS DEPARTMENT AND AN
OFFICIAL FROM PROTOCOL (RESPONSIBLE FOR EVACUATION
FLIGHT CLEARANCES). ON JUNE 5, THE STATE EDUCATION
COMMISSION AND THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY
CANCELLED SCHEDULED MEETINGS WITH US. EMBASSY WENT
TO A CITY POLICE STATION THE EVENING OF JUNE 4, AND
FOUND ALL THE DOORS AND GATES LOCKED, EXTERIOR
LIGHTS OFF, AND NO POLICE OFFICERS WILLING TO GO OUT
ON THE STREETS. I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BY TELEPHONE, BUT
OVERALL OUR MOST COMMON INTERLOCUTORS HAVE BEEN DUTY
OFFICERS AND MIDDLE LEVEL OFFICIALS. THE GOVERNMENT

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6. (C) OTHER EMBASSY PLANS REGARDING EVACUATION:

7. (C) USG EMPLOYE

EMPLOYEES

DEPENDENTS

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BEIJING 111 105

CHENGDU 6 8

GUANGZHOU 27 36

SHANGHAI 16 21

SHENYANG 10 8

SUB-TOTALS 170 258

GRAND TOTAL 428 USG EMPLOYEES AND DEPENDENTS

2. AMERICAN CITIZENS IN CHINA:

WHAT FOLLOWS IS AVAILABLE INFORMATION ABOUT TOTAL NUMBERS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO MAY BE IN CHINA. THIS INFORMATION IS BROKEN DOWN BY DISTRICT AND IS BASED ON MOST RECENT F-77 REPORT.

(1) BEIJING CONSULAR DISTRICT

-- BEIJING CITY

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 1011
OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTACTED EMBASSY 400

BEIJING GENERALLY WOULD HAVE 2000 TOURISTS AT ANY ONE TIME, HOWEVER, AT THE MOMENT WE BELIEVE THERE ARE PROBABLY NO MORE THAN 400 TO 600 TOURISTS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE CONTACTED THE EMBASSY ALREADY AND PROVIDED THEIR WHEREABOUTS.)

-- DISTRICT OUTSIDE OF BEIJING

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 300
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 400

(2) SHANGHAI CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 600
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 2400

(3) SHENYANG CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 250
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 250

(4) CHENGDU CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 191
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 1000

(5) GUANGZHOU CONSULAR DISTRICT

REGISTERED RESIDENTS 1020
TOURISTS - ESTIMATED 600

EMBASSY THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL FIGURES HAVE NOT CHANGED SINCE SUBMISSION OF 1989 F-77, WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS IN ITS FILES.

ONE ESTIMATE OF THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CITIZENS NOW IN BEIJING IS APPROXIMATELY 1,500. THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ESTIMATED 75 PERCENT OF THEIR AMERICAN DEPENDENTS HAVE ALREADY LEFT CHINA. IBM, BECHTEL, AND WTC HAVE ORDERED THEIR EXPAT STAFFS TO LEAVE CHINA. TWO-THIRDS TO THREE-FOURTHS OF OUR BUSINESSMEN IN BEIJING WILL BE GONE BY THE END OF

THIS WEEK.

3. REACTION TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:

SHANGHAI REPORTED AN INITIAL POSITIVE REACTION AMONG STUDENTS. THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY WAS REASSURED BY THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON CONTINUITY IN OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

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